



LODI CITY COUNCIL

Carnegie Forum
305 West Pine Street, Lodi

"SHIRTSLEEVE" SESSION

Date: April 2, 2013

Time: 7:00 a.m.

For information regarding this Agenda please contact:

Randi Johl

City Clerk

Telephone: (209) 333-6702

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Informal Informational Meeting

A. Roll Call by City Clerk


B. Topic(s)

B-1 Presentation and Discussion Regarding the Alarm Program and Ordinance (PD)

C. Comments by Public on Non-Agenda Items

D. Adjournment

Pursuant to Section 54954.2(a) of the Government Code of the State of California, this agenda was posted at least 72 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting at a public place freely accessible to the public 24 hours a day.



Randi Johl
City Clerk

AGENDA ITEM



CITY OF LODI COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Presentation and Discussion Regarding the Alarm Program and Ordinance

MEETING DATE: April 2, 2013

PREPARED BY: Chief of Police

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Presentation and discussion regarding the alarm program and ordinance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Ordinance No. 1669 was last updated in 1999 to address the growing number of false alarms requiring police response. At that time, the alarm program permits, fines and fee collection fell under the Finance Department.

In 2002, the Police Department assumed all billing and collection duties utilizing a program designed for data collection only. The entire data collection and billing process is in need of updates as is the ordinance.

Staff will provide an overview of the Alarm Program and specifically discuss the costs for alarm response, the billing and collection system, proposed changes to the ordinance, alarm requirements and the fee schedule.

FISCAL IMPACT: Not Applicable

FUNDING AVAILABLE: Not Applicable

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Helms", written over a horizontal line.

Mark Helms
Chief of Police

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Konradt Bartlam", written over a horizontal line.

Konradt Bartlam, City Manager

LODI POLICE DEPARTMENT

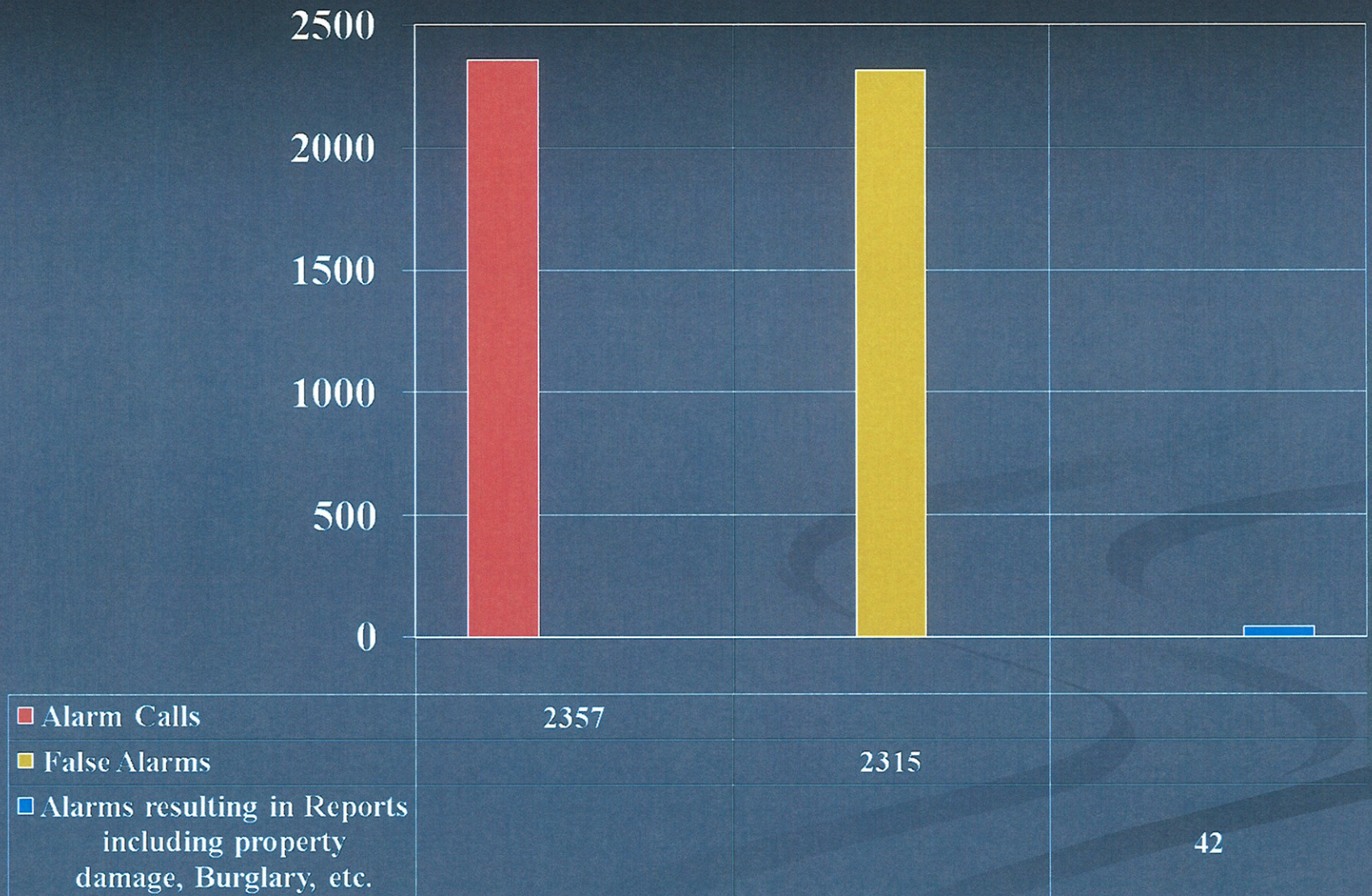
City of Lodi Alarm Program

April 2013

Alarm Program Overview

- Alarm Ordinance updated in 1999
- Goal to reduce False Alarms in Lodi
- Implemented Permit monitoring program with over 3,500 alarms in Lodi
- Annual Renewals for Commercial
- Non response and excessive false alarm fines
- PD assumed Billing/Collections 2002
- Partners operate program with Management oversight

2012 Alarm Calls



2012 False Alarms

- Responded to 2315 False Alarms
- 94.3% of Alarm Calls were False Alarms
 - 48% Residential
 - 52% Commercial
- Average 6.3 False Alarm calls per day
- Two Officers are Dispatched to each call
- Officers spend an average of 15 Minutes per call

2012 False Alarm Costs

Two Officers are Dispatched to Alarm Calls

Staff	Average Time Per Call	Personnel Cost
Dispatcher	6 Minutes	\$5.12
Police Officers (2 per call)	30 Minutes (15 Minutes x 2)	\$34.00
2,315 False Alarms	1,389 Hours	\$90,563

Current Permits and Fines

- \$25 Fee for Initial Alarm Permit
- Annual Fee
 - Residential No Annual Fee
 - Commercial \$25 per year
- \$50 for Third alarm in 6 month period
(Fees Increase to \$75 for each additional)
- \$50 for False Alarm with No Responder

Comparison

	<u>Lodi</u>	<u>Elk Grove</u>	<u>Manteca</u>	<u>Stockton</u>	<u>Tracy</u>
Alarm Permit Fee (<i>Resid.</i>)	\$25.00	\$50.00	None	\$55.00	\$20.00
Yearly Renewal (<i>Resid.</i>)	None	None	None	\$25.00	\$20.00
Yearly Renewal (<i>Com.</i>)	\$25.00	\$0.00	None	\$25.00	\$20.00
1st & 2nd false alarm	\$0.00	\$0.00	None	\$0.00	\$0.00
3rd false alarm	\$50.00	\$75.00	\$100.00	\$85.00	\$100.00
4th false alarm	\$75.00	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$85.00	\$230.00
5th false alarm	\$75.00	\$200.00	\$400.00	\$85.00	\$555.00
6th False Alarm	\$75.00	\$250.00	\$400.00	\$85.00	No Resp.
Failure to Obtain a Permit	None	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$267.00	\$100.00
Failure to respond (<i>20 min.</i>)	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$80.00	\$100.00
Alarm Verification Required	No	No	Yes	Yes	No

Challenges

- Current alarm program is not compatible with CAD system
- Lack of effective alarm program is costing the City revenue (\$57,000 in 2010 to \$31,000 for 2012)
- The majority of false alarm calls are user error
- Alarm calls are “in progress”
- Approximately 50% of Lodi alarms are not monitored or verified

Recommendations

- Update Alarm System to be compatible with CAD System. Options include:
 - Purchase compatible system for \$43,000; annual maintenance fee of \$7,000
 - Outsource alarm program at a 50/50 split fines/fees
 - Develop an in-house program and handle billing/collections with volunteers and staff

Recommendations

- Update Ordinance
 - Fine for operation of an alarm without a permit
 - Fine after 2 false alarms in 1 year instead of 2 in 6 months. (63 % of false alarms are from repeat offenders)
 - Develop penalties for failure to pay an alarm permit, fees or fines
 - Require alarms to be verified prior to police response

Recommendations

- Increase initial Alarm Permit Fee
- Continue Commercial Annual Renewal
 - Commercial Alarms Require frequent updates
- Increase False Alarm Fines
 - First two false alarms in 12 months no charge
 - 3rd false alarm \$100
 - 4th false alarm \$200
 - 5th false alarm \$300
 - 6th false alarm – review for no response

City Council Questions?